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CONGRESSIONAL RECORD APPENDIX

## Secretary Dean Rusk at Erskine College

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THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 1967

MR. DORN. Mr. Speaker, Erskine College at Due West, S.C., in my congressional district, was fortunate to have Secretary of State Dean Rusk deliver a commencement address when Dr. Joseph L. Pyle, Chairman, presided on April 29.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to the fact that we have a fine school here as a truly magnificent example of higher education in a beautiful setting of yesterday, holding intellect and character to meet the needs of tomorrow.

Our own great distinguished colleague in Congress, the Honorable Tom Claffey, and his lovely wife, Mary Phillips Claffey, are graduates of this outstanding institution.

Mr. Speaker, I commend to the Congress, to the academic community, and to all of our people the superb and timely address of Secretary Rusk:

ADDRESS BY HON. DEAN RUSK AT ERSKINE COLLEGE, DUE WEST, S.C., APRIL 29, 1967

MR. DORN. Friends of Erskine College, our past speaker has honored President Wightman, Erskine College and the state of South Carolina by his presence today. We are grateful to him for taking this time from his busy schedule. Secretary Rusk is a native of Georgia and he was graduated from Davidson College, where he majored in Political Science and played on the basketball team.

Dr. Graham Martin, who is with us today, now president of Davidson College, was a classmate of Secretary Rusk. Erskine played basketball twice while Secretary Rusk was on the team. Several who played on the Erskine team, including one of our own board members, Evan Reed, are with us today. I might add that Erskine won the game in 1930 (laughter and applause) by a score of 32 to 27. Secretary Rusk was high scorer with 13 points. (Applause.)

To be fair, and because he follows me later, I must say that Davidson won the 1931 game by a score of 37 to 23.

Winning a Rhodes scholarship, he studied philosophy, politics and economics at St. John's College, Oxford, from 1931 to 1934. While at Oxford, he wrote an essay which was awarded the Cecil Peace Prize. Dr. Wightman also attended Oxford and graduated from Oxford in 1938. It was at Oxford that Secretary Rusk and Dr. Wightman had the same tutor, Mr. William Conrad Costin. Secretary Rusk is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and his keen interest in education is evidenced by the fact that he has been awarded honorary doctoral degrees by 13 colleges and universities.

As you will observe, he scored 13 points against us, and he has 13 honorary degrees, so Erskine will break this tie today. (Laughter.)

Secretary Rusk has devoted his life to public service. Accomplishment of his long period of public service, as an educator, researcher, and statesman are well known. His qualities, particularly in the pursuit of world peace, are well known by all. It is my pleasure now to present the Honorable Dean Rusk, Secretary of State. (Applause.)

Secretary of State DEAN RUSK. Mr. Watts, President Wightman, members and distinguished guests, it is a real pleasure for me personally to speak to you tonight. I am very grateful to you for the invitation to speak to you tonight. I would really like my class of the Choristers, if they would let me. (Laughter.) But I want to thank you for the warm welcome that you have given me on this campus and in this community. There are moments when that is especially appreciated by a Secretary of State. (Laughter.)

Some time ago I was on my way to a large university to make a speech, and about 30 minutes out of the airport the control tower sent me a message, saying, there are a thousand people here to meet you, Mr. Secretary. That was a bit of a surprise, so I sent a message back to the airport, saying, "I'll be there in 15 minutes." (Laughter.)

Now, I am here again, and I am told that we've had a few days, the last few days, come on in, the natives are friendly. (Laughter.) I'm very happy to be here on this platform, with three very distinguished members of your congressional delegation in Washington, who spend so much time there for you and for your nation. Senator Thurmond, and your own Congressman Dorn from this District; your own Congressman Gettys, distinguished alumnus of this college. I'm happy to be at Erskine. I've had many ties with Erskine College over the years, through family and friends, and once in a while on a basketball court. I take some satisfaction that my lifetime record against Erskine is 1 and 1. That should lead to some harmony here today.

But in any event, Davidson and Erskine have learned a good deal over the years about how to lose sporting events gracefully. That's why we call it character building. (Laughter.) But to be at Erskine at a time in which you are inaugurating Joseph Wightman is a very special pleasure indeed. He and I just missed each other at St. John's College, Oxford. In the Oxford parlor, I "went down" the year he "came up." I've been trying to think of some suitable lesson to draw from that particular expression, but I haven't been able to find one that would be of advantage to me. (Laughter.)

But W. C. Costin, that remarkable tutor, and later President of St. John's, sent me the warmest message about how happy he was that Dr. Wightman will be the President of Erskine College, and I will put that message, along with the other memos of this occasion—memorials of this occasion—in the record. Today I'm not going to read a speech to you. I want to talk for a few minutes, very personally, and very informally, chiefly to the young people, as though we were sitting around in groups of 10 or 12 in a faculty living room somewhere to give you some impressions about how your Secretary of State looks at the world these days, and what he thinks about it, and what your concerns and our concerns are, and ought to be, and what they may be in the future.

I would urge you first to know that for as long as you live, we shall be in a period of breathtaking change. If a young person would ask me today, for what must I be prepared—in all honesty I would have to say, for whatever comes. And where better to learn the basic ideas for whatever comes than in a liberal Arts college like Erskine College. How can I illustrate that change?

In 1946 when the architects of the United Nations were instructed by the UN to build a new headquarters, they told them to prepare for 60 members, but for a possible expansion to 75. Last fall they admitted the 122nd member, to the United Nations. During each calendar year there are elections or changes of government in at least 50 of the

countries with whom we have relations. And most of those have some bearing upon our relations between them. That's changing, and it's changing rapidly. (Laughter.)

We send out intelligence reports to the Department, all over the world, and you think that most of you would like to see most of them, if you had a chance to see them, and most of them are available for public information, but there is a great dramatic change. That means that we must know how to organize our thinking in this tempestuous world. General Omar Bradley, a very wise man, said some years ago that the greatest need for us is to know

what we do, what we do, what we do. I mean, what we do will be one of the strongest factors in the world scene. With so much power, so much influence, what we do makes a difference to almost everyone else.

It is necessary therefore for us to be reasonably predictable, to stay steady on course, so that not only our friends, but our potential adversaries will be able to know something about what our conduct will be. Because if we should act haphazardly, without purpose, without reason, the world situation could deteriorate into chaos and violence, chaos very quickly. And again, where better to look for those great central themes of policy than in a college like Erskine. The first, I shall mention two of them. The first, governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. If you think that is trite, take care—and try to improve upon it, by the way. Because this simple notion, which was derived by Thomas Jefferson and his colleagues out of at least 2,000 years of discourse on the political nature of man, deserves as a scarlet thread of policy for a nation like ours, where the people rather believe that this proposition is true, it is why we have welcomed so many new nations into the community of nations, for the colonial systems have yielded up their nationally independent units. It's why we are concerned as people, about what goes on at times behind the respective curtains. It is why we are much more intimate with democracy than we are with dictatorships in our foreign relations, why we are so deeply concerned if there are still tasks to be done, to give the great promises of our Declaration of Independence and our Constitution to all our citizens here at home.

Governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. I have frequently said to incoming ambassadors, coming into Washington to represent their countries, that if they want to know how to predict with reasonable accuracy the attitude of the American people toward a great variety of events in the course of a year, just to keep their eyes on that rather simple first position. Second—and I want to dwell on this for a few minutes—the necessity for the organization of a durable peace. As I told half of my listeners today and to those who remember World War II. And never mind that can remember the events which led up to World War II. One of my concerns is that, as we put more time between that catastrophe and our day, the great central question of 1945 will slip into the background and we shall be negligent and careless about it, because that great central question was the organization of a durable peace.

The lessons drawn from that war are written into Article I of the United Nations Charter. .... I would hope that many of you would take a little extra time to read over once again, this Article I, but this time a